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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 OIC-02 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 OPIC-03

SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AF-06

ARA-06 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SS-15 XMB-02 TAR-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

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O R 212103Z MAY 75
FM USMISSION OECD PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE 7160
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
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AMEMBASSY VIENNA
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AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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E.O. LL652: N/A
TAGS: EGEN, OECD
SUBJECT: PREPARATIONS FOR OECD MINISTERIAL - PROPOSED AD HOC GROUP ON RELATIONS WITH LDCS

1. SUMMARY: MAY 21 HEADS OF DEL DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED AD HOC COMMITTEE TO REVIEW ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH LDCS FOCUSSED PRIMARILY ON PROCEDURAL ASPECTS OF WHEN AND HOW GROUP SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED AND TO WHAT BODY IT SHOULD REPORT. ONLY DUTCH AND SWEDES EXPRESSED OUT-RIGHT OPPOSITION TO EARLY INAUGURATION OF OECD REVIEW OF OVERALL ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH LDCS. END SUMMARY.

2. ONLY GERMAN AND UK DELS (WHO RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO THAT EFFECT TODAY) EXPRESSED FULL SUPPORT FOR AD HOC GROUP REPORTING TO COUNCIL AS PROPOSED BY SECGEN. UK THOUGHT COUNCIL RESOLUTION SHOULD BE REVISED TO CALL FOR INITIAL REPORT PRIOR TO 7TH SPECIAL SESSION. WHILE IN-DICATING GENERAL SUPPORT FOR INTEGRATED OECD REVIEW OF RELATIONS WITH LDCS, FRENCH, CANADIAN, SWISS, BELGIAN, AUSTRALIAN AND DANISH DELS OPPOSED CREATION OF NEW COMMITTEE AND THOUGHT XCSS WOULD BE MOST APPROPRIATE BODY TO CARRY OUT REVIEW IN LIGHT OF ITS REPRESENTATION AND CROSS-FUNCTIONAL FRAME OF REFERENCE.

3. IN ADDITION TO MAKING LANGUAGE SUGGESTION PER STATE 118399, US REP (KATZ) INDICATED THAT WE CONSIDER XCSS MOST APPROPRIATE BODY TO APPLY HORIZONTAL APPROACH TO THIS PROBLEM BUT ASSUMED THAT RATHER THAN CARRYING OUT WORK ITSELF XCSS WOULD CALL TOGETHER GROUP OF EXPERTS WITH SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS. HE SUGGESTED AS POSSIBLE COMPROMISE THAT AD HOC GROUP MIGHT BE INSTRUC-TED TO REPORT TO COUNCIL THROUGH XCSS. US REP REITERATED US
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VIEW WAS THAT THIS REVIEW AS WELL AS HLG ON COMMODITIES SHOULD BE DECIDED AT TIME OF MINISTERIAL.

4. DUTCH DEL SAID HIS GOVERNMENT FELT THAT ANY OECD REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENT ISSUES SHOULD BE SELECTED AND AVOID DUPLICATION WITH WORK OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS. INSTEAD OF ESTABLISHING AD HOC GROUP, HE PROPOSED THAT SECGEN MAKE IMMEDIATE INVENTORY OF QUESTIONS ON WHICH

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OECD MIGHT PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE AND REPORT THIS TO DAC HIGH LEVEL MEETING (JUNE 30-JULY 1). AFTER DISCUSSIONS BY DAC MEETING, COUNCIL MIGHT DECIDE ON HOW BEST TO ORGANIZE OECD'S WORK.

5. SWEDISH DEL SUPPORTED DUTCH IDEA AND PROPOSED LANGUAGE FOR PARA 6 OF COMMUNIQUE WHICH WOULD ELIMINATE REFERENCE TO OECD REVIEW AND MERELY CALL UPON MEMBER GOVERNMENTS TO REVIEW THEIR OWN POLICIES WITH APPROPRI-ATE ASSISTANCE FROM OECD ON SELECTED ISSUES. BOTH DUTCH AND SWEDES THOUGHT OECD SHOULD FOCUS ITS WORK ON COMMODITIES FOR PRESENT AND SUPPORTED PROPOSED HLG ON COMMODITIES.

6. AFTER LISTENING TO DISCUSSIOH, UK DEL REITERATED UK MINISTER'S STRONG AVERSION TO ALLOWING MINISTERIAL TO GET BOGGED DOWN OVER PROCEDURAL ISSUE, AND PROPOSED THAT MINISTERS SIMPLY INSTRUCT COUNCIL TO ESTABLISH REVIEW OF RELATIONS WITH LDCS ON URGENT BASIS LEAVING PROCEDURAL QUESTION UNTIL AFTER MINISTERIAL MEETING. US REP REITERATED THAT WE ARE FLEXIBLE ON PROCEDURE BUT STATED THAT WE SHOULD BE CERTAIN BY END OF THIS WEEK OF WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN MINISTERS MAKE POLITICAL DECISION TO CREATE THIS REVIEW. HE POINTED OUT THAT PRESS AND

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SS-15 XMB-02 TAR-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

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OTHERS MIGHT GAIN INACCURATE IMPRESSION OF SERIOUS DISAGREEMENT AMONG MINISTERS IF COMMUNIQUE OUTLINES PROCEDURAL MEANS OF DEALING WITH COMMODITIES BUT LEAVES OPEN QUESTION OF HOW TO DEAL WITH OVERALL RELATIONS WITH LDCS.

7. VAN LEHNEP STRONGLY RESISTED DUTCH PROPOSAL, INDICATING THAT ONE OF MAJOR PURPOSES OF AD HOC GROUP OF EXPERTS WOULD BE TO DECIDE WHAT ISSUES OECD MIGHT APPROPRIATELY SEEK TO DEAL WITH. IN SUMMATION, VAN LENNEP STATED THAT SUPPORT FOR PLACING RESPONSIBILITY OF REVIEW (ON WHICH THERE WAS GENERAL CONSENSUS WITH

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EXCEPTION OF DUTCH AND SWEDES) WAS STRONGER THAN ANTICIPATED. HE INDICATED HIS PERSONAL AGREEMENT THAT XCSS IS APPROPRIATE HORIZONTAL BODY FOR THIS. HE THOUGHT THERE WERE TWO POSSIBILITIES; AGREE THAT COUNCIL ESTABLISH GROUP REPORTING THROUGH XCSS TO COUNCIL OR VEST RESPONSIBILITY IN XCSS ITSELF. IN LATTER CASE SECRETARIAT WOULD ON ITS OWN RESPONSIBILITY CONVENE GROUP OF EXPERTS TO HELP IT PREPARE POSITIONS AND XCSS DISCUSSIONS AS IT DID IN CASE OF INVESTMENT STUDY..

8. UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED, US REP WILL CONFIRM POSITIONS STATED TODAY ON THIS ISSUE AND SUPPORT EITHER PROCEDURAL OPTION STATED IN VAN LENNEP'S SUMMATION WHICH APPEARS TO RALLY GENERAL SUPPORT, SINCE EITHER WOULD APPEAR TO FURTHER US OBJECTIVES.
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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